



Saint Augustine Webster Catholic Voluntary Academy

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Spring issue 1

I would like to wish you all a belated but very Happy New Year.

Although last term saw the end of the **Jubilee of Mercy**, its legacy lives on in the New Year. Bishop Patrick has invited us to reflect on a national project '**A Heart which sees**'. Schools and young people are encouraged to explore ways in which we could live this out in our daily lives and within our school communities. It is primarily underpinned by and related to the parables of The Prodigal Son and The Good Samaritan. This heart sees where love is needed and acts accordingly.

The children have been introduced to this project and we will be focusing on the simple ways that children can live, following this message.

Coming and going!

Last term we were very sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Wardle, moving on to new challenges. We wish her all the best in her new job.

We also said goodbye to

Mrs Priestley who retired at Christmas after many years of devoted service. We wish her well on her travels!

In contrast, I am pleased to welcome Mrs Small, Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Whitehead



Another important development this term relates to behaviour in school. We have simplified our school rules to make them memorable and meaningful. Please support your child by referring to them often. You would be amazed how many situations can be addressed by the three words:

Ready
Respectful
Safe

who have joined the school as teaching assistants over the last few weeks. We hope they will be very happy at SAW. Finally, a very warm welcome to the new pupils throughout the school and their families.

Saint Augustine Webster CVA

Spring Issue No. 1

January 2017

Diary Dates

- ☉ Thursday 10th January whole school Mass
- ☉ Tuesday 31st January Class 5H assembly
- ☉ Wednesday 1st February Class 1MB assembly
- ☉ Thursday 2nd February year 2 and 6 parents' evening
- ☉ Wednesday 8th February Class 6P Mass
- ☉ Friday 17th February school closes
- ☉ Monday 27th February school reopens
- ☉ Wednesday 1st March Ash Wednesday Mass
- ☉ Monday 6th March Speech and Drama Festival all week
- ☉ Tuesday 7th March Class 4L assembly
- ☉ Wednesday 8th March Class 2A assembly
- ☉ Wednesday 22nd March Class 5D Mass
- ☉ Wednesday 5th April Y3 & Y4 Easter Service
- ☉ Friday 7th April school closes
- ☉ Tuesday 25th April school reopens

Achievements

Sport

Children at SAW continue to be an active bunch as they take part in a range of events. The football teams have had some fantastic results whilst showing great sporting attitudes.



The school has also been well represented in other events, including swimming and table tennis. The recent table tennis competition saw tremendous performances from all who took part. Special mention to Ella Porter on reaching the final. Best of luck!

Rules

Please ensure that children wear correct uniform, especially shoes. This teaches discipline and a sense of belonging. During bad weather, children may come to school wearing boots. However, children must change into shoes once they are in school. They may change back into boots to go home.

Nail polish, tattoos, extreme hairstyles or large hair decorations have never been permitted. Furthermore, children should not wear jewellery, **especially earrings**. In addition to breaching the uniform code, earrings can also pose a health and safety risk. Our children look so smart when they adhere to the uniform code. This raises levels of self esteem and pride for the children.

Elections

The children have learned about democracy in action last term as they took part in elections for the School Council and Eco Committee. This was very well organised by Mrs Dalton and Miss Allen. Nominations for candidates were made and votes were cast in a very serious and realistic manner.

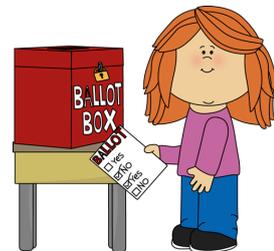
The council and committee members who were elected take their roles and responsibilities very seriously. I look forward to hearing their views.

A group of children also visited the English Institute of Sport, in Sheffield, for a 'Future Stars' event. What a fantastic opportunity to experience a range of sports in a top class venue. Thanks to Mr Brook for facilitating such an opportunity.

Many thanks to Mr Brook and all staff who support children in sporting activities.

Poster Competition

Congratulations to Evie Kobarenko and Sophie Redhead for winning the Scunthorpe Telegraph competition to design posters for local businesses. Great achievement!



Many parents have asked about watches. Although these were not allowed previously, we acknowledge that children need to practise telling the time continuously to master the concept. Therefore, the wearing of simple, inexpensive watches is permitted. If it becomes a distraction then it ceases to be an aid to learning about time and staff will ask for it to be removed.

Please also remember that toys should not be brought to school as they can easily become lost or broken.

I apologise if I appear to be nagging. Your support really does make a difference to the school's approach to discipline. Many thanks for your understanding.

Reminders

At the risk of repeating ourselves, there are some issues to be emphasised.

School lunches

If your child has allergies (please note that this does not mean preferences) please keep the school up to date.

Payment must be received on Monday morning / first day of attendance. **It is unacceptable that office staff spend valuable time chasing up arrears.** If you think that your child may be entitled to free

school meals, please speak to someone in the office as soon as possible.

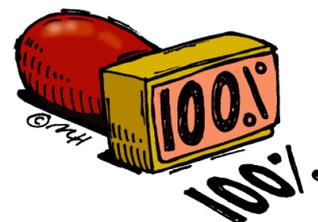
Attendance

Although I acknowledge that child illness is inevitable, especially at this time of year, please make every effort to ensure that your child has good attendance. If your child is ill for more than 4 days, please provide details of medication prescribed, for our records.

Leave of absence requests will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and

must be submitted in good time prior to the proposed absence. It is an expectation that any visits abroad will be made during school holiday time.

Absence from school results in gaps in learning for children which obviously has a negative effect overall.



Well done those who have achieved 100% attendance in Autumn Term! They will be receiving certificates shortly.

Safeguarding

Home time

Parents of children in Foundation or KS1 must authorise adults to collect their children. Any changes in arrangements must be put in writing. Parents of children in KS2 must inform the school in writing if they wish their child to walk home by himself / herself.

Under no circumstances should parents attempt to enter classrooms during class time. Teachers are available to answer questions before or after school hours only.

Please make sure that your child is aware of 'Stranger Danger' and knows how to keep themselves safe.

Playground

Under no circumstances should parents approach children on the playground at any time of day. This can be very intimidating for children, even if the intention is a good one. If you have any issues or queries regarding children other than your own please come to the office or approach a member of staff. We will do our best to sort out the problem.

Car Parking

As always I ask that you park safely and courteously, respecting our neighbours and being aware of pedestrians. Children learn from the example we set.

Our recent engagement in the 'Red, Amber, Green' scheme had a positive effect. Sadly, I still receive numerous complaints from parents and local residents regarding inconsiderate / dangerous behaviour.

Child safety is paramount and should always be at the forefront when driving and parking around school. Parents and residents are well within their rights to report unsafe behaviour.



News

Holocaust Memorial Day

I was accompanied to this annual event at the Civic Centre by four Year 6 pupils who represented the school admirably and read the poem 'I kept on walking' beautifully. Thank you Mike Krol, Victoria Chwarscianek, Yasmin Hussain and Febin Jimmichen. The children also shared their poem with children back at school during assembly. This year's theme was 'How can life go on?'. This such a difficult subject to tackle with young children but a tremendously important one to address at a time when children are learning what it means to be a global citizen.

Supporting Reading at SAW

During the course of the term we will be engaging in a range of events to promote reading. As well as acknowledging how crucial reading skills are for learning and as an indicator for future life outcomes, we want to show how reading can bring joy into our lives.

We will be doing this in line with the local authority's strategy to promote literacy across North Lincolnshire — 'Words count'.



Charity

Many thanks to all those who supported our fund raising efforts last term. We raised money for the Poppy appeal, The Forge, The Shoebox Appeal, Children in Need and Save the Children.

Charity is a major part of our Lenten observance and we will be raising money in lots of different ways.

We hope to support Haven of Hope as well as other charities. Please help in whatever small way you can. More details will follow soon.



HOW CAN LIFE GO ON?
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2017

Speech and Drama Festival

Many children are busy preparing for the festival at the moment. Our school has supported this event for many years and our children have benefitted hugely. It's a great way to gain confidence in speaking as well as develop a love of language and literature. Good luck to all those taking part.



The festival begins on 6th March. More details to follow.



Follow us on Twitter @SAWAcademy to keep up with news and see some of the great things our children are doing.